

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A core for use in casting a gas turbine bucket, the core comprising a solid, curved upper body portion and a pair of co-planar legs extending downwardly from said solid, curved upper body portion, said pair of legs separated by an elongated open slot extending from a lower end of said core upwardly more than half a height dimension of the core, into said upper body portion, and a pair of axially aligned pegs projecting in axially opposite directions from opposite sides of said solid, curved upper body portion, perpendicular to and above said elongated slot but spaced from an upper edge of said solid, curved upper body portion, said pair of pegs lying substantially in a plane containing said co-planar legs, and wherein, in a radial direction, said pegs are closer to said elongated slot than to said upper edge.

2. (Previously Presented) The core of claim 1 wherein said solid, curved upper body portion has opposite concave and convex surfaces, and wherein said pegs extend from the convex surface of said solid, curved upper body portion.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Canceled).

5. (Canceled).

6. (Original) The core of claim 1 wherein said pegs are laterally aligned.

7. (Currently Amended) A core for use in casting a gas turbine bucket, the core comprising a solid, curved upper body portion and a pair of ~~co-planar~~ legs extending downwardly from said solid, curved upper body portion, said pair of legs lying in a common

plane, separated by an elongated open slot extending from a lower end of said core upwardly more than half a height dimension of the core, into said upper body portion, and a pair of pegs projecting in axially opposite directions from opposite sides of said solid, curved upper body portion, above said elongated slot but spaced from an upper edge of said solid, curved upper body portion; wherein said pegs are elliptical in cross section, and further wherein said solid curved upper body portion has opposite concave and convex surfaces, said pegs lying substantially in said common plane, extending from from the convex surface of said solid, curved upper body portion, perpendicular to the elongated open slot.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Previously Presented) The core of claim 7 wherein said pegs are substantially laterally aligned.

10-15. (Canceled).